least 'B' grade) accredited institutions or institutions with at least 75% of the eligible courses accredited by National Board of Accreditation (NBA), are eligible to be considered for declaring them as institutions 'deemed-to-be-universities'.

Review of Deemed University status

387. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to initiate reforms in higher education and has decided to review the status awarded to Deemed Universities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has awarded Deemed University status to a large number of private institutions without checking their accountability; and

(d) if so, the present position of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Central Government is in the process of reviewing the functioning of institutions declared as 'deemed-to-be-institutions' through a Committee of Experts.

(c) and (d) Institutions are declared as 'deemed-to-be-universities' by the Central Government on the recommendations of the University Grants Commission. The Commission follows the procedure of assessment by Committees of Experts and its guidelines in regard to eligibility of institutions.

Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan

388. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to go ahead with Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) scheme aimed at universalisation of access to and improvement of quality of education at secondary stage;

(b) if so, whether Government has also allotted Rs. 20120 crores for the scheme in Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, whether in addition Union Government will bear 75 per cent of project expenditure while States will bear balance of 25% and the pattern will be 50:50 in Twelfth Five Year Plan;

(d) whether mandate of scheme is to provide universalisation of education by 2020; and

(e) whether in addition objective of scheme are removal of gender, socio economic and disability barriers?